



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENT NO.	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,378	06/23/2009	7551571	GOLDBERG3	6625

1444 7590 06/03/2009  
BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.  
624 NINTH STREET, NW  
SUITE 300  
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-5303

## ISSUE NOTIFICATION

The projected patent number and issue date are specified above.

### **Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)** (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment is 1029 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the adjustment on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (571)-272-4200.

APPLICANT(s) (Please see PAIR WEB site <http://pair.uspto.gov> for additional applicants):

Noam Goldberg, Tel-Aviv, ISRAEL;  
Igor Balter, Ashdod, ISRAEL;  
Idan Kaspit, Rosh Ha'ayin, ISRAEL;

## **GRANT PROCESSING**

The grant processing involves Utility Patents, Plant Patents, Design Patents, Reissue Patents, Statutory Invention Registrations, and Reexamination Certificates. The Patent Application must successfully complete the Grant Processing flow in order to receive a Patent number and issue date. The following is the Grant Process in order of occurrence.

### **Revised Notice of allowance**

A Revised Notice of Allowance (NOA) will be mailed 6 weeks prior to effective issue Date of E-Grant. The NOA is mailed from the Technology Center and entered in PALM. At this point the applications are placed in an electronic queue waiting to be exported.

### **Initial Export**

The export is electronic in that the images in IFW are sent to the Data Capture Contractor via a file transfer program. Exports happen daily except for Thursday. However patent applications can fail export. The patent applications that fail export are listed in a weekly report generated from PALM. Applications can fail export for the reasons listed below:

- Invalid zip file
- HTTP response
- Multipart read time
- No NOA document code

**Invalid zip file errors** and **HTTP response errors** are computer system problems which Office of Data Management (ODM) sends a message via email to the contractor to have the problem corrected. Once problem is corrected, the application is recycled back into Initial Export process.

**Multipart response errors** are resolved in ODM by closing NPLs and FORs from the IFW Active status. ODM then resets the applications for export. When applications have completed export, the documents previously closed are returned to the active status.

**No NOA document code errors** are resolved in ODM by updating the doc code or rescanning the NOA. ODM then resets the applications for export.

### **Initial Data Capture (IDC)**

Once the applications are exported, the IDC work begins. This process normally takes about 6 weeks. Each application is reviewed to ensure accuracy and completion. If problems arise, the IDC contractor will return a query to the ODM to review and make correction, if possible. Unresolved queries are forwarded to the Technical Center (TC). Upon completion application is sent back to IDC for completion of IDC process. When the application is determined to be complete, the IDC contractor will capture all available information necessary for the printing of the official patent grant. Upon completion of IDC the application is forwarded to File Maintenance Facility.

### **File Maintenance Facility (FMF)**

The File Maintenance Facility is responsible for tasks such as entry of Post allowance correspondence filed after the Notice of Allowance was mailed, verifying fee payments, abandoning applications etc. The processing in the FMF normally takes 1-2 weeks.

Due to the electronic nature of the application, work can be accomplished simultaneously with Initial Data Capture. Once all post allowance requirements are satisfied, the staff at the File Maintenance Facility sets the application for export to Final Data Capture. Occasionally, the applications can not export due to a flag set in PALM preventing issuance. These flags are sometimes referred to as grouping flags. Grouping flags